

ANSWER

TO THE
SCANDALOUS ASPERSIONS
OF

COMMITTEES.

By Mr. Walter Pottell, in his Books, called,
NEWS for NEWTERS, &c.
and in his Epistles preceding
his Books.

By William Stoughton Esquire, one of the Judges of the Court
Common in Bankruptcy, &c.

Price, 6d. 2s. 7d.

*Hide no friends from your eyes, who wish to see the reformations
of the church of England.
Who ever their names are ascribed, and how their names, or how
their words, have been used.
So and find how as they are, so are, so they are, so they are.*

Printed in the Year, 1643.

ALMS-WORK

SCANDALOUS ASSERTIONS

COMMITTEES

By Mr. W. L. G. in his Book, called

THE NEW TESTAMENT

and in his English speaking

Book.

By William Spurgeon, Minister, one of the Ministers of the Com-
mittee for Clergy, &c.

These are the first numbers of the series: from the first number
of the series of numbers.
It is not their own book, and they have to show
their own book, and their own book.
The God of all is the God of all, and the God of all is
the God of all.

Printed in the year 1848.

The Epistle to the READER.



Our *Reverend* Reader, one Mr. Walter Powell, a Minister (who calls himself *Vicar* of *Standish*) hath of late Printed, and published a new Book, named *News for Newters, &c.* and in his *Dedicatory*

See his Epistles and the Book, fol. 28.

Epistle; first to *Major General* *Maslie*, and next to the *Honourable House of Commons in Parliament*, and in some passages of the Book he hath taken upon him the boldness freely to rail upon *Country Committees*, more freely upon the *Committee of Gloucester, &c.* but most virulently against one Member thereof, for the injustice and hard measure he hath had by a sentence given by the *Committee of Gloucester* against him, to oust him of his *Vicarage*; whereby he pretendeth he hath suffered more injury (se ipso iudice) then ever the *Martyres* did suffer by their persecutors. Wherefore to vindicate the reputation of the *Gentlemen* of that *Committee* who joyned in that act, (some whereof are dead) to pull off the vizard from his impudent face, and to put a stop to his deceipts that he may no longer amuse and abuse other men there with; I have been necessitated to take upon me this task, to Examine the proceeding of the *Committee* against him, and his representation thereof, and charge therein against the *Committee*.

Si accusare sufficiat, equi erit innocens?

In answer to, and for the clearing of both which, I shall do no more, but present you with the naked truth of the proceedings, and give you the whole case faithfully extracted and stated out of the Records of the *Committee*, with some short additions, and brief observations thereupon: entreating you that have read the one, to read the other also, that so by comparing the one with the other, you may be able to judge of both.

Qui statuit aliquid parte inaudita altera, &c.

If you read his Epistles, you find him therein affirm these particulars against the *Gentlemen* of the *Committee of Gloucester*.
1. That their proceedings against him in the matter before them was unjust, and in the judgement of some Members of *Parliament* unparallel.

See the Epistles.

To the Reader.

parallel. 2. That they are ruining unjust Judges. 3. That the sentence given by them against him was matchlesse, malicious, and abominable, such as the stones cry for justice against them for it.

For answer to these Charges, if you will be but pleased to read his Crimes for which he was ejected, in the proofs of the witnesses against him, or (if that be too long) † in the sentence given against him, wherein they are abridged, and the manner of the proceeding of the Committee in his ejection, and take this withall, that there was something more proved before the Committee, viva voce, at the bearing of the cause then is Recorded; you will easily perceive that this slander of Mr. Powell, of the living and dead (not the sentence and proceeding of the Committee in his case) is matchlesse, malicious, abominable, and unparalleled. But he tels you of some particulars where-

See his Epistles.

See in the pro-
cess of the
cause, f. 12, 8,
13, 14.
Faciunt facinus
qui fugit judi-
cium.

fol. 14.

in this injustice was shewed. 1. That he was cast out of his Living being unheard, and that his censure was before any witness of his could be heard, and that the Certificate of some of the Committee herein containeth manifest untruths, &c. For the clearing of this Slander (if his mouth or penne be a slander) if you please to looke into the proceedings, you shall find he did examine three witnesses, refused to answer the Articles exhibited against him, appealed from the Committee, to the Parliament, refused to be tryed by the Committee, having as little mind to be tryed by them (many of whom were his neighbours, had lived more then twenty years by him, and knew him very well) as he hath to have his cause re-heard according to the order of the Committee of Plundered Ministers made now more then two years since. But the truth is he had, and might have had (as others had in like case) leave to examine as many witnesses as he pleased. And you shall find in the process of the cause, that the witnesses on both sides were to be present at the bearing of the cause. And that Warrants were to be sent forth to bring them in, which he might have had done if he had had any mind to it. 2. He will tel you he waited long. I shall say thus much to this, that had it been true, it had been no cause of complaint; for all men that had to do with the Committee in that time did so, nor could the Committee, having then so much to do, dispatch men sooner. But how long did he waite? If you view the case, you shall see the 19 Articles against him were exhibited against him Decemb. 3. 1644. and it was heard the 25 of Febr. following, which was no long time to examine above 40 witnesses, and if it were long, it was made long by his delay. 3. He will

tel

To the Reader.

tell you he had additionall Articles put in against him, we do not find, remember nor believe this to be so, but this may be true, his crimes deserving it, and (if so it be) is just and no more but what was used before that Committee, and is used before other Committees in like case. 4. He complains that he could not have Copies of the depositions, and be present at the examination of witnesses: For the first of these, I have examined the Clarke, who doth affirme, that he had the offer of the heads of the proofs against him, without the names of the witnesses, as other men in like case: But nothing would satisfy him, but the depositions at large with the names of the witnesses, a thing (in that time) not granted to any man in like case. But (by his favour) I thinke he ought not to have had so much granted to him till he had answered the Articles exhibited against him, which he alwayes refused to do. And that the party accused should be present at the private examination of witnesses against him, was a motion against all reason, & that which the Committee did not thinke fit to grant to any one in the like case, but he might have been present at the publique examination. 5. He complains yet further, and saith: That all that was done by the whole Committee (being eight of them) was done by the procurement of one Committee-man; This is as true as the rest, and as sensible and ridiculous as false. Nor can these seven Gentlemen take this well, that they should be deemed so shallow and weak, to be all of them in so great a worke led by one, and one of the meanest of them. 6. But he finds fault further, and saith: That he was adjudged to be scandalous, to satisfy the greedy appetites of a new Committee-man, an old hangman, a posted Malignant, and a professed Newter: I must herein, as to the persons whose appetites he pretends were satisfied by this unjust censure, professe my ignorance of his meaning, except by old hangman he mean one Henry Gabb, who offered to give evidence against him, but was refused. For the greatest part, if not all the witnesses, who did depose against him were very substantiall, many of them Religious persons. And I dare say that as the Judges were discreet & just men, so was that judgement of theirs uncorrupt, and according to the merit of the cause, not to satisfy the greedy appetite of any, but to satisfy their owne Consciences in the discharge of the trust put upon them. 7. But he tells you somewhere he spied the worse in his cause for his Sermon. This is as true as all the rest: And observe how probable it is when himself affirmeth, that the man that procured all this in-justice to be done, did not hear

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the Sermon, and (if we mistake not the man) he doth assure you he never (to his remembrance) heard any thing of his Sermon, till now that he had made it so common by his Printing and publishing thereof.

2. But in aggravation of all these wrongs, he boasts himself, for lack of neighbours to do it for him, and cries up what love he hath borne to, and how much he hath done, for the Parliament.

Tell me for this Mr. Powell, when you began first to shew your self so friendly to the Parliament: for I do not remember I have heard any thing of your zeal for it, till first by their zeal against you, you were like by their Commissioners to be justly punished for your wicked life: and then (as your manner is) you begin to flatter with the Parliament: but what have you done for the Parliament, tell me if you can: if not, I will tell you what you have not done for it. Did you out of your great estate lend the Parliament any money in the time of its extremitie? I will play the fool a little also, and tell

*Amicus certus,
&c.*

See the case.
fol. 11.

Fol. 29. of his
Book, *Injuria
servo illata re-
dimitur in domi-
num.*

See the case.
fol. 9.

you of a Committee-man, and (it may be) the man you are so much troubled withall, who out of his penury lent the Parliament 40. l. in the time of its extremitie, did you out of your plenty lend it 40. s.? Nay are not you the man that did and still do shew your self most averse and unwilling to the payment of all Parliament taxes, and threaten and reproach the Parliament Collectors and Officers in the execution of their office, yet more, I shall tell you what you have done against the Parliament. 1. You have, yet more to heighten and provoke the rage and fury of the people against the Parliament and their servants, charged all Contry Committees with injustice, oppression, and tyranny, as one of the great causes of the staggering of the people, and in this do you not strike the Parliament through their servants sides? you are doublelesse in the right where you say, This doth reflect upon the honour of the Parliament, as maysture in the feet strikes up to the head. But can you make out this accusation well against all Committees as you have done the accusations you have made against the Committee of Gloucester? I dare say, if you were put to it you cannot prove two unjust acts to be done by all the Committees of England, your Tongue is your owne. 2. Are not you the man that placed and kept in Raudwick one of your Cures, one Mr. Smith, a man notorious for his scandall and ill affection to the Parliament, till he was for the same ejected by the Committee of Gloucester

To the Reader.

Gloucester, and did not you then endeavour to oppose their justice therein? and are not you the man that notwithstanding you were present at the hearing of his cause, and the sentence of his ejection, who did cause the same Smith to Preach in your own Church at Standish, your self being present, the next Fast day, after his ejection? 3. And (if I mistake not) you placed and kept in Hardwick, (another of your Churches) one Mr. Swan (as great a Cavaleere as any you cry out so much against) till he was forced to flie from thence for fear of the Parliaments Army. I dare not affirme that you do not love the Parliament: But if you do, I will tell you what is said of Ithacius hated to the Priscillian heresie, it was all the virtue he had.

A good cause is much wronged by a bad champion.

3. After this he tells you of his sufferings for the Parliament in his name, person and estate; which he tells you have been intollerable, incredible, and to the losse of his lively-hood and danger of his life.

For this we have enquired of his sufferings by the Kings Party, and can hear of nothing of value taken from him save what he had againe, except two Oxen, a Bullock and Bull taken by Sir Ralph Duttons meanes for a debt of 8. l. Sir Ralph challenged from him for Rent, the which he had againe, and might have kept if he would have paid him, and foure Kine, and some small pieces of householdstufte; this we have heard to be the truth of that case.

And as to his sufferings by this hideous sentence of the Committee, we cannot imagine how he should be much hurt by this: for the truth is (as he himself in one of his Epistles confesseth) that not long after this sentence given for his ejection, he got an Order from the Committee of Plundered Ministers to restore him to the Vicarage of Standish, and his arrearet, and hereby he hath ever since enjoyed it against the Order of the Committee. And we are credibly informed, that albeit Mr. Powell was absent from his charge at Standish almost a whole year, and (for the most part) the same was served by other Ministers: Yet there hath not been above 30. l. of the profits of the Vicarage taken from him by any other Minister. And that he either hath, or might have received the rest. Runwick and Saule being places inconsiderable, not able to discharge the Curate: I do not find that the Committee have intermeddled with them. And as for Hardwick (now worth about 40. l. a year) it was at or near the time of the Order of ejection, in the hands of one Mr. Dowlman, who held
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See the case.
fol. 9.

the same by an Order of Major Generall Massie then Governor of Gloucester, made by him before any Committee there settled upon the Petition of the Parish: After that Mr. Dowlman had left Major Generall Massie and others (as Committee-men) placed Mr. Ven there, who after he had been there about eight Weekes, was frighted from it by Mr. Powell, and had nothing at all (that we can heare of) for his paines, and after this time the Committee did not at all intermeddle with the disposall of this Church, till they placed Mr. Walker in it, who was there about five Moneths only; so that upon this account there could not be above 50. l. at the most of the profits of all his Churches, disposed away from him in all that time by order of the Committee, which is the thing he desireth the Parliament to consider, and to give him reparations for, as for intollerable sufferings.

4. But in this Mr. Powell finds great fault in the Committee, especially in one Member thereof, to place (for his supplanting) in his Chappell (as he calls it) a Minister that hath been taken in Armes against the Parliament, ejected out of his living in Monmouth shire, for being contentious against his neighbours, a common drunkard, a rayler against the Parliament, and one who said he was and would be a Cavaliere. And herein he supposeth he hath charged the Committee home, and so he hath, but it was without powder or bullets. To all this I answer, that if this be true of this man (which is more then the Committee know) he is too too like Mr. Powell. But all that the Committee did herein was this. The place being void, upon a Petition under the hand of most of the parishioners, to have this man settled amongst them. The Committee knowing no more of the man but this only, that he was a man well gifted, able to pray and Preach very well, they passed an Order that he should be there upon tryall untill they might have better knowledge of him: and as soone as they had information against him, that he was a man ill affected to the Parliament, they made another Order to put him out. The Copies of both which Orders you shall find at large in the proceffe of his cause.

5. He seemes to find fault that Committee men, who have no land, do act in the Committees, and thereby implies, that he thinks those men who have no land, unfit to be employed in that worke.

Is not this your meaning Mr. Powell? if it be, it is strange Logick to me, that because a man hath no land, he should be unfit for publique

"Turpe est do-
Hori. &c.

See the Orders
in the case. f. 17

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lique employment; if your arguing in your booke be no better, I may
vaile not, it hath so little esteeme amongst the wisest men: may not
a man have a good estate, that hath no estate in Land? But why may
not a man without Land be as fit for a Committee-man, as a Minister?
I doubt not Mr. Powell was as honest a man, and as fit for his office,
when he had no Land, and before he bought the Mannor of Sir Ralph
Dutton, and was to give 3000. l. for it, when I presume he knew not
where to have 1000. l. to pay for it, and after when he had for want
of money reconveyed it to Sir Ralph Dutton for his security of his
money, as while he was by this purchase Lord of a Mannor.

6. But in his Errata upon his Book (not having spit all his venom
before) he tells you of something he had forgotten: that some Com-
mittee-men had bought more Lands since they were preferred to their
Committeeships then they sold before.

I suppose he means by this that they sold their Land for need, and
bought againe by their dishonest gains in their new office, otherwise he
saith nothing to purpose, and who these men are, I, nay I dare say he
cannot tell. But being willing to tell you all I know, I shall tell you of
one Committee-man, that having a piece of Land of 80. l. per an.
who did (not for lack of money) but for other weighty causes (as is
well knowne to many Parliament-men) sell it for 2000. l. part of
which he laid one before, and part since he was made a Committee-
man, upon Leases and Cappy-hold-estates. And yet in all he hath
not laid out by 100. l. so much as he made, it may be able to be made
and matter you intend.

Last of all, as to all that barking of his, in a rable of groundlesse,
frivolous and senselesse accusations against one Committee-man, he
calls his malevolent Committee adversary. That he procured all this
injustice to be done, turned his back to his Sermon, went out of Glou-
cester at the Siege, &c. albeit the things are not worth answering,
yet I shall give them this answer. There is no truth in these assertions.
For first, men would have more easily believed, that one of the Mem-
bers of the Committee was his malevolent adversary, had the ac-
cuser shewed any reason why he should be his adversary, for the next
thing (as I have said already) what was done by the Committee
against the complainer was unanimous by all the Committee, without
the consent of three, of whom no Committee act can be done; for the
third Mr. Powell makes a very good improvement, but a strange

*Equitatis, est
ab improbis, im-
probari, ac a bo-
nis probari.*

B.

construction.

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Parliament
monies, &c.

construction of that all: It is much he could thinke of no other occasion which the world might have to go out of the Church, but disrespect of his Sermon, and fear of his presence, it is more like, Mr. Powell a guilty man as you were, might fear the presence of the Committee-man appointed to be one of your Judges, then that he should fear you. The going away of the Committee-man from Mr. Powells Sermon, (if we mistake not the man) was not out of fear of his person, or disrespect of his Sermon, nor for any other reason, but because he was sent for out of the Church about some speciall businessse. And for his going away at the Siege, he went away about a fortnight before the Siege, and staid out at the Siege: And what of this? is it (in your judgement) a crime for a man that had nothing to do in Gloucester to go out of it at the Siege? Thus have you the whole case: And now let the world judge by the promises, what manner of man this is; and whether he hath not herein evidenced to all the world the truth of one of these Articles exhibited against him (not so fully proved before) to wit, that he is a common lyer; for he that will in so few lines print so many lies, may be presumed in his ordinary discourse to tell many lies. And whether the Committee of Gloucester have not more reason to Petition the Parliament to have a Commission, to such Commissioners as the Parliament shall be pleased to name, to examine the falsehood of these accusations, then that Mr. Powell should desire a Commission from the Parliament, to such Commissioners as he shall name, to examine the Combination and unjust proceedings of his malevolent Committee adversay, &c.

Your true friend

W. S.

I Have left his Booke to be scanned by those that have
more leisure, and ability then I have yet: I shall
give you the suddaine sence of a witty Schollar upon
it in these Verses I lighted on by chance.

To the Reader on Mr. Powels Booke.

*Laugh and be fat: for thou didst never tast
So many kickshaws at a publike fast:
He the first service prefaced (as appears)
With Hedghogs, Eagles, Puscats, and Beares.
Whether this Cooke served in Plate or Pewter,
Were wise, or witty? Aske not: He is Nenter.
Aske what he lent the State, himselfe can tell it,
Much in a monthfull, or a paper pellet.
Aske what was offered on his Fasting day:
They offered more then one to go away.
Aske what he did: what grist he brought to th' mill?
Then the mans ground, and never passive still.*

Here followeth a true Coppy of all the proceedings
of the Committee of Gloucester, in Mr. Walter Powels
case.




The

That Branch of the Ordinance, made the 10. of May, 1644. by which, the Committee of Gloucester, &c. are authorized to put out Scandalous, and il-affected Ministers.

And be it further Ordained by the said Lords and Commons, that the said Committees, or any three of them, shall have power to call before them, all Ministers and Schoole-masters within the said Counties and City, that are Scandalous in their lives, or il-affected to the Parliament, or fomenters of this unnaturall War, or shall wilfully refuse obedience to the Ordinances of Parliament: or shall have deserted their ordinary place of residence, not being employed in the service of the King and Parliament. And they shall have power to send for any witness, and examine any complaints, or receive any testimony against them, upon Oath of any person that shall be produced to give Evidence against them, and upon such proofs of the aforesaid crimes, the said Committees, or any three or more of them, have hereby power to remove, and Eject, all such Scandalous Ministers, and Schoole-masters, and in their places nominate and appoint, such learned, able, and Godly persons as they shall thinke fit, and shall cause all such Ministers, and Schoole-masters, so nominated and placed, to be put in possession of the said severall Churches, and Schooles, who shall and may representatively, take, receive, and perceive to their owne use, the profits, and revenues, belonging to the said severall Churches and places.

Articles Exhibited to the Committee for the County of Gloucester, against Walter Powell Clerke, Vicar of Standish, in the said County, 3. Decemb. 1644.

1.  *Primis*, That he keepeth and holdeth foure places, with cure of souls in his hands, and endeavoureth to do so still, and taketh little care for either of them.
2. *Item*, That he is a common haunter of Alehouses, and hath been dronke oft.
3. *Item*, That he doth so exceedingly busie himself in secular affaires, that he is not fit to undertake the cure of souls.
4. *Item*, That he is a common lyar, and very deceitfull in word and deed.

Item,

5. *Item*, That he is a man very contentious, and given to Law suits.

6. *Item*, That he is a common Cheater, and doth usually over-reach his neighbours in bargaining.

7. *Item*, That he having the Cure and charge of *Hardwick* Church under him, hath for divers years together, kept and continued Mr. *John Smith*, a Curate under him, who is a man very scandalous, and ill affected to the Parliament, and one who for the same is Ejected by the Committee, and yet a man much favoured, and countenanced by Mr. *Powell*.

8. *Item*, That the said Mr. *Powell* the last year, was absent from all his Churches 12. weekes together, and made no provision for them all that time.

9. *Item*, That when the Committee (the presentation of the same Churches belonging to the Bishop of *Gloucester*) had at the suite of the Parishoners of *Hardwick* (they being then in distresse for want of a Minister) put (in Mr. *Powell*'s absence) one Mr. *Ven* an honest Minister, who continued there diverse weekes, and served the Cure, yet Mr. *Powell* when he came home, turned him out contrary to the Order of the Committee, and refused to give him any satisfaction for the time he had served the Cure.

10. *Item*, That Mr. *Powell* when he came from *London*, gave out speeches he had an Order from the Parliament to put out Mr. *Ven*, when he had none.

11. *Item*, That Mr. *Powell* in contempt of the Committee after they had Ejected Mr. *John Smith* his Curate at *Hardwick*, caused him the next Fast day after the said Ejection, to Preach in his own Parish Church at *Standish*, he being present when the said Mr. *Smith* was Ejected.

12. *Item*, He hath caused divers persons of the Parish of *Standish*, to be presented in the *Consistory Court* at *Gloucester*, for going to other Parishes to hear Sermons, when as himselfe did neglect the said Cure once a day at least.

13. *Item*, That after there had been debate before the Committee, touching the Rents in question, between Sir *Ralph Dutton* and Mr. *Powell*, and the Committee had told him, that he should not receive the said Rents, he notwithstanding did cunningly practice with Mr. *Hawke* the Collector, perswading him to abuse

the power committed to him, to get the said Rents into his hands.

14. *Item*, That since he hath been questioned before the Committee, he hath given out threatening speeches against the witnesses that have been summoned in against him.

15. *Item*, That since he hath been questioned before the Committee, he hath been seen drinking in an Ale house at *Wetherbury* 14 houres together.

16. *Item*, That the said Mr. *Powell* did suffer his servants, with Waine and Oxen, to carry Hay certaine Sabbath daies together.

17. *Item*, That after Mr. *Powell*'s Cattle had been distrained for Contribution money, the said *Powell* gave out threatening speeches, that if ever the Kings Army came into the County again, he would be revenged of those that had distrained his Cattle.

18. *Item*, The said Mr. *Powell* is a man much given to fighting and quarrelling.

19. *Item*, That when the Overseers of the poor for the Parish of *Hardwick* demanded of Mr. *Powell* his dues to the poor according to the Statute in that case provided; The said Mr. *Powell* answered them, that if they would make him pay to the poor, according to the Statute, then they should have Sermons according to the Statute, that is, once a moneth, or when they could have them.

Depositions of Witnesses to the Articles exhibited against Walter Powell Vicar of Standish Decemb. 21. 1643.

1. *To the first Article*, *John Bainham* of *Hardwick* being

I sworne, saith, that the said *Walter Powell* being now possessed of the Vicarage of *Hardwick*, is for the most part a non-resident at *Hardwick*. And he saith that the last year 1643, there was but one Sermon in the Parish Church of *Hardwick* for 14 weekes together.

Thomas Beard of *Saul* sworne to the first Article saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath the charge of foure severall Churches and Cures, (viz.) *Standish*, *Hardwick*, *Rendwick* and *Saul*. And saith, that the Pary Tythes of *Saul* and the Gleab-land there, is worth about 7. l. per an. And saith that Mr. *Powell* since he had the

Cure

Cure of *Saul* he sold away the Gleab-land and the Church-yard belonging to *Saul* for 60. years if he the said *Powell* so long live. And that Mr. *Powell* hath for the most part placed to serve the Cure of *Saul* Drunken Idle Ministers, such as he could get best cheape; one whereof (whose name was *Floyd*) the said *Powell* hired for about 40. s. per an. to serve the said Cure, and that the said *Floyd* was enforced to sue the said *Powell* for the said 40. s. before he could have it. And he saith diverse of the Inhabitants of *Saul*, have formerly been presented at the Consistory Court, some of them and their whole families by the said *Powell* bad Curates for going to other Parishes to hear able Ministers Preach.

John Beard and *John Ellis* of *Saul* aforesaid say upon Oath, that what *Thomas Beard* hath spoken is true in all points.

Robert Keylock of *Hardwick* sworne to the first Article saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath the charge of foure Churches and Cures, (viz.) *Standish*, *Hardwick*, *Rendwick* and *Saul*. And saith, that in the Parish Church of *Hardwick* they have had no Minister the last Summer for divers weekes together, but what the Parish procured of themselves: and saith he hath heard and doth beleeve that the Vicaridge of *Hardwick* hath been worth 50 l. per an. And saith that Mr. *Ham* being Curate of *Hardwick* about ten years since under Mr. *Powell*, was enforced to sue the said *Powell* for his wages at the Councill.

John Niblet of *Standish* sworne saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath the Cure and charge of foure Churches, (viz.) *Standish*, *Hardwick*, *Rendwick* and *Saul*, and saith that Mr. *Ham*, his Curate at *Hardwick*, told this deponent, that he was faine to sue the said *Powell* for his wages, for serving the Cure of *Hardwick*.

Edward Mill of *Standish* being sworne saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath the charge of foure Churches, and that *Standish* being one of them, hath been sometimes neglected for a fortnight or three weekes together, without any Preaching or Prayers.

John Paine of *Hardwick* being sworne saith, that Mr. *Powell* Vicar of *Hardwick*, hath been very negligent in serving the Cure of *Hardwick*, and for three moneths last past, the said Parish of *Hardwick* hath been neglected six severall times.

Richard Teale of *Hardwick* being sworne saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath

hath and holdeth foure Churches with cure of souls (as this deponent hath heard) and that *Hardwick* being one of them, hath been many dayes neglected once a Saboth.

Giles Wyman of *Standish* being sworne saith, that *Mr. Powell* having the charge of foure severall Churches, of which *Standish* is one: and he saith, that in *Standish* Church they have been many dayes neglected at least once a Sunday: And he saith, that when the well minded people of the Parish have (by reason of his neglect) gone to other Parishes, he doth usually raile at them, calling them *Neuters*, *leanne Witches*, *Gallopers*, and *Amblers* to other Churches; And that when the Parliament doth settle things, he will be the first that shall question them for it, these have been his usuall expressions in the Pulpit.

George Stratford of *Standish* being sworne saith, that *Mr. Powell* hath been very negligent in serving the cure of *Standish*, and he saith, that for two Saboth dayes within two moneths last, the Bell having rung for a Sermon, when the people came to Church, they had no Sermon at all.

Henry Payne being sworne saith, that *Mr. Powell* is a man very negligent in serving the Cure of *Standish*; for this deponent saith that he hath lived many yeares in *Standish* parrish, and that the said parish hath been many Saboth daies neglected by *Mr. Powell* (in his duty) in serving the said Cure, which hath occasioned diverse of his parishioners (as the deponent beleeves) to go to other parishes to hear Sermons, whereupon the said *Mr. Powell* usually falls a rayling at them in the Pulpit for going to other parishes, calling them *Trotters* and *Amblers*, and that if the Parliament do not take course with such, they might pray that the Parliament would take course to pull downe the Churches.

Oliver Haltham being sworne saith, that *Mr. Powell* Vicar of *Hardwick* was in the year 1642. absent from his parish of *Hardwick* about 14 weekes together, and that during all that time they had but on Sermon in *Hardwick* Church, and that the Church doores were shut up most of that time.

Danill Watts of *Hardwick* being sworne saith, that *Mr. Ham* Curate of *Hardwick*, was enforced to sue *Mr. Powell* often for his Wages: and he hath heard *Mr. Powells* Curates often complain for want of their pay from *Mr. Powell*.

John

John Rogers and *Thomas Rals* both of *Hardwick*, being sworne, say, that on Sunday the 16 of February last, they had neither Preaching nor Prayer in the parish Church of *Hardwick*; And they say, that on the said day the Bell did ring in the morning, and almost the whole parish came to the Church, but had no Minister there: And they say, that the Clerke of the said parish told them that *Mr. Powell* did appoint him to ring the Bell every Sabbath day, except he did hear from *Mr. Powell* to the contrary; and they say, that he rang the Bell twice accordingly, but *Mr. Powell* came not nor any else for him.

Richard Watkins of *Standish* being sworne, saith, that *Mr. Powell* hath for many years last past, been very negligent in serving the Cure of *Standish*; and he saith that about three years since he gave out threatening speeches against this deponents son *William Watkins*, that if the said *William* would not keepe his owne parish Church at *Standish* (he sometimes going to other parish Churches by reason of *Mr. Powells* neglect) he would make him forsake the place of his abode; whereupon this deponent wished him to question those that never come to any Church, mentioning one *Henry Hall*, and one or two more who did seldome go to any Church at all: To whom *Mr. Powell* answered, that if the said *Hall* and the rest do not come to his Church, yet they goe to no Church else, with which he the said *Powell* seemed to be well pleased.

Thomas Fowler of *Standish* being sworne, saith, that the last summer *Mr. Powell* was absent from all his Churches for about ten weekes together, and sometimes they had Preaching in their Church at *Standish*, and sometimes none.

2. To the second Article *Thomas Beard* of *Saul* being sworne, saith, that he hath diverse times seene *Mr. Powell* sit drinking in an Ale-house at *Fromyload* passage, and other places.

John Niblet being sworne, saith, that about ten years since, the said *Mr. Powell* drew this deponent into an Ale-house, and caused him to drinke Beere and Wine, more then did him good.

Nathaniel Knight of *Arlingham* being swore and examined, saith, that about five or six years since, he saw the said *Mr. Powell* so dranke upon his horse back, that he could scarce sit upright upon his horse, and being Drunke he rod into an Ale-house at

Arlingham, and did drinke more Ale or Beere.

Edward Norman of *Haresfield* being sworn, saith, that he hath often seene *Mr. Powell* sit drinking in Ale-houses.

June Mill of *Standish*, widow, being sworn, saith, that she hath diverse times seene *Mr. Powell* sit drinking very freely & merrily at the Bull in *Standish* parish: And she saith, that about six years since she saw *Mr. Powell* at *Sir Ralph Duttons* house in *Standish*, and that she said *Mr. Powell* (as this deponent heard) had dranke hard in *Sir Ralphs* Buttery: And she saith, that as he sate in the Buttery drinking with other company, he fell a vomiting; and within two houres after, when he came to himselfe againe, he went home to his house.

Thomas Parke of *Whetenbury* being sworn, saith, that about three moneths since, he saw *Mr. Powell* drinking at *Whetenbury*, in *Turbotiles* house, at the Inne there, and that he was drinking above an houre in this deponents sight, and that he left him there, and how long he staid there afterwards, he knowes not, and how long he was there before this examinant came he knowes not.

Richard Paine of *Hardwick* being sworn, saith, that about two years since he saw *Mr. Powell* sit drinking in one *Coopers* house, an Ale-house in *Haresfield*; & that *Mr. Powell* caused this examinant to drinke with him; and this examinant left him there drinking, and how long he staid there he knowes not.

Henry Winkle of *Arlingham* being sworn, saith, that a litle above foure years agoe, *Mr. Powell* being a Commissioner at *Arlingham* upon a Law suite, was so Drunke that he was not able to sit on his horse back; and being helped off his horse by a man that stood by, he was not able (by reason he was Drunke) to get up againe: And he saith that he saw the said *Mr. Powell* at the same time sit drinking in two Ale-houses in *Arlingham* six houres, and did drinke abundantly all that time till he was Drunke.

William Harris of *Hempstead* being sworn, saith, that about foure years since, he saw *Mr. Powell* sit reeling on his horse back, betweene *Gloucester* and *Hempstead*, and he saith, that the said *Powell* was once almost ready to fall off his horse back; And he beleeves the said *Mr. Powell* at the same time was either Drunke,

or

or Mad, but he rather beleeves he was Drunke.

3. 6. To the third and sixth Articles, *Robert Keylock* of *Hardwick* being sworne, saith, that the said *Mr. Powell* is much given to Buying and Selling; and that he bought the Reversion of a Living in *Hardwick* over this deponents head (this deponents life & his wifes widdowes estate being in the said Living) as this deponent was told by *Nathaniell Hawkins* of *Elmore*, and beleeves to be true. And he saith, that about eight years since, the said *Mr. Powell* bought a Bond or Specialty of the said *Nathaniel Hawkins*, in which Bond this said deponent stood bound to the said *Hawkins* for 40. l. and was turned over to pay it to the said *Powell*, to this deponents intollerable losse and damage. And he saith, that the said *Powell* is very contentious, and hath been much given to Law suits, and hath sued this deponent for the money before mentioned, since he bought the said debt or Specialty.

John Niblet of *Standish* being sworne, saith, that *Mr. Powell* hath, and doth spend most of his time in buying and selling, and meddling in worldly matters.

John Paine of *Hardwick* sworne, saith, that *Mr. Powell* is much given to buying and selling of Land, and to Law suits, and a common Commissioner, which renders him unfit for the worke of the Ministry.

Richard Tealfe of *Hardwick* being sworne, saith, that about a moneth since, *Mr. Powell* Preaching at *Hardwick* upon a Sabbath day in the afternoone, and Sermon being ended, this deponent desired him to come to his house: and being come, he saw there one widdow *Packer* of *Putley*, and seeing her fell to threatning her, because she was behind for chiefe Rents of her Living in *Putley*, which *Mr. Powell* said was due to him, and in a threatning manner told her, that halfe her Cattle would not (or but) make him satisfaction for her neglect: The which widdow *Packers* Living was part of the bargain that *Mr. Powell* bought of *Sir Ralph Dutton*. And being admonished by this deponent for his threatning speeches, it being the Sabbath day; he notwithstanding continued threatning her till he went out of the house.

Mary Packer of *Putley* widdow being sworne, saith, that about the latter end of *April* last, there came two Souldiers to this deponents house, & distrained two of her Kine for Rent, which they

said was due to Mr. *Powell*, and they said that Mr. *Powell* sent them to do it. And this deponent saith, that the said two Souldiers drove her two Kine to Mr. *Powells* house, and kept them about two daies, and the deponents servants carryed them Fodder to Mr. *Powells* house or court: And this deponent saith, that about a moneth since she being at *Richard YealFs* house at *Hardwick* upon a Sabbath day, Mr. *Powell* being there, and seeing this deponent there, fell to threatning her for not paying her Rent to the said Mr. *Powell*, and told her in a threatning manner, that halfe her Cattle would not satisfie him for her said Rent; the Rent being the chief Rent of her Living, being part of the Lordship which Mr. *Powell* bought of Sir *Ralph Dutton*.

Joyce Gabb widow, and *John Gabb* of *Haresfield* say, that about five years since Mr. *Powell* caused *Richard Gabb* of *Parkend* in the County of *Gloucester*, late husband to the said *Joyce Gabb*, and a poore blind man to be Arrested upon a Writ, and brought him to *Quedgley*, and afterwards to *Standish* to an Ale-house there, to bring him to a composition: And the reason why he did so, was, because he the said *Powell*, would have cozened the said *Gabb* out of his Living, for there were but two lives in the said *Gabbs* Living, and Mr. *Powell* had bought one of the said lives before, and now in all likelyhood thought by this meanes to have had the other.

4. 6. To the fourth and sixth Articles, *Thomas Beard* of *Saul* being sworne, saith, that about 12 years since, the Ministers house of *Saul* being decayed, the said *Powell* turned it off to the parish (whereas before he tooke rent for it) whereupon the parishioners of *Saul* bestowed in repairing the said house about 10^l. and within a short time after, the said *Powell* did sue *Thomas Greening* (now deceased) being then a Churchwarden of *Saul*, for the said house, and as the said *Greening* confessed, caused him to spend about 40. s. in the said suite, for deteining the said house from him: and not long after the said *Powell* had an order from Sir *Nathaniel Brent*, to take possession of the said house, and so had it from the parish againe.

John Beard and *John Ellis* of *Saul* affirme the same.

Anne Gabb of *Standish* widow being sworne, saith, that Mr. *Powell* is a man very contentious, and given to Law suites, and

and hath sued this deponent, and caused her to spend most of her estate in Law suits: And about four years since, Mr. *Powell* sent one of his daughters to this deponents house to tell her, that Mr. *Powell* her father had put Cattle in this deponents ground: whereupon this deponent going to see whether it were so or no, and coming to the said ground, the said *Powell* had there provided two Bailiffs to Arrest her: And saith, that Mr. *Powell* used this policy on purpose to Arrest her: And that when they had Arrested her, Mr. *Powell* refused to let her go upon Bayle, but kept her two dayes and a night as a prisoner, and made her pay all the charges of the Bayliffs before she could be let goe, and afterwards let her go upon her owne Bond: And she saith, that Mr. *Powell* through his violent prosecuting her by Law suits, cozened her out of 10. l. *per ann.* because she was not able to defend her selfe in the said suits, she being a widow and not capable of Law suits: And she saith, that Mr. *Powell* keeps away from her six Acres of ground by violence.

Margery Knight, the wife of *Nathaniel Knight* of *Arlingham* being sworne, saith, that about foure years since, she saw Mr. *Powell* as she beleeves, so drunke that he could scarce sit upright on his horse back: And she saith, that Mr. *Powell* at the same time did leane over his horse as if he had vomited: And she saith, that as many as saw him at the same time, were sorry to see a man of his coate so Drunke.

Robert Charles of *Saul* being sworne, saith, that about a year since, he was sent by the parishioners of *Saul* to Mr. *Powell*, to desire his approbation for one Mr. *Summers* an honest Minister to have the Cure of *Saul*: And the said Mr. *Powell* in answer, desired this deponent to give the said Mr. *Summers* all the encouragement that might be: and withall promised that the said Mr. *Summers* should have the place if the parish of *Saul* would pay him their dues: And this deponent saith, that the next Sabbath day after, the said Mr. *Powell* (contrary to his former promise) sent one Mr. *Grime* of *Woodchester* to serve the said Cure: whereupon the parishioners of *Saul*, were enforced to Petition the Governour to have the said Mr. *Summers*, to be their Minister, who granted it unto them.

5. To the fifth Article, *Thomas Beard* of *Saul* being sworne,

saith, that Mr. *Powell* is very contentious, and hath been much given to Law suits, and hath sued this deponent and diverse others (as he hath heard) and he saith, that the said Mr. *Powell* is very deceitfull in his dealings, as appears in that after this deponent had paid his money for Tythes, the said Mr. *Powell* denied the receipt of the said money, and caused this deponent to prove the payment of it by witnesses.

Edward Mill of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that Mr. *Powell* is very contentious and given to Law suites, and that he sued this deponents mother when as she owed him nothing, and caused her to payne her Coverlet from her bed to pay Fees, and that she hath not redemed her said Coverlet to this day. And he saith, the said Mr. *Powell* hath sued this deponents mother, because she would not exchange foure Acres and a halfe of Land for three Acres and a halfe of Mr. *Powells*.

Richard Couly of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that Mr. *Powell* is a man very contentious and given to Law suites, and saith, that the said *Powell* sued this deponent, and caused him to spend money upon an unjust suite.

Edward Norman of *Haresfield* being sworn, saith, that Mr. *Powell* is a man very contentious, and given to over-reach his neighbours in bargaining. And he saith, that about 12 years since he tooke Land to halves of Mr. *Powell*, and after he had bestowed a whole summers worke in plowing and caring the said Land, and making it ready to be sowed, he the said Mr. *Powell* enforced this deponent to yeild up his bargain, without giving him any satisfaction for all his charge and paines.

6. To the sixth Article, *Edward Mill* of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that Mr. *Powell* is a man deceitfull in his dealings, and given to over-reach and deceive in bargaining.

8. To the eighth Article, *William Turner* of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that the last summer Mr. *Powell* was absent from all his Churches or Cures for 10 or 12 weekes together, or there about; and that during that time they had neither Preaching nor Prayers in *Standish* Church, for three Sabbath dayes and one Fast day, and the last Sabbath day they had no Preaching nor Prayers in the afternoone.

Michael Niblet of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that Mr. *Powell* was

was absent from his foure Churches the last Summer, from the beginning of *May*, to the end of *July*, then next following, and he saith, that he being Cloake to Mr. *Powell* at *Standish*, know not of any Minister that Mr. *Powell* provided to serve the Cure at *Standish* in his absence: And he saith, that during the time of Mr. *Powells* absence, he did ring the Bell in *Standish* Church two Sabbath dayes, expecting to have Preaching or Prayers, but had none at all.

9. To the ninth Article, Mr. *George Ken* now Minister at *Wherrenhurst* being sworne, saith, that about Midsummer last, he was placed by the Committee to serve the Cure of *Hardwick* in Mr. *Powells* absence (they being in distresse for want of a Minister) and that he served the said Cure seven or eight weekes: And he saith, that Mr. *Powell* when he came home, turned out this deponent, contrary to the Committees order, and hath not yet given him any satisfaction for serving the said Cure.

10. To the tenth Article, Mr. *Ken* saith (being sworne) that after he had served the said Cure seven or eight weekes, Mr. *Powell* came from *London*, and showed this deponent an Order or Letter under the hands of *Nathaniel Stephens*, and *Edward Stephens* Esquires, & one Parliament man more, but refused to let this deponent read the said Letter or Order, but said the substance of it was, that he should take the Cure of *Hardwick* into his owne hands.

11. To the eleventh Article, *Richard Cowly* of *Standish* being sworne, saith, that upon the last Fast day being the 27 of *Novemb.* † Mr. *John Smith* of *Rendwick* Preached in Mr. *Powells* Church at *Standish*, the said Mr. *Smith* being Ejected by this Committee the day before, being the 26 day of *November* last.

12. *Thomas Fowler* of *Standish* being sworne, saith, that Mr. *John Smith* of *Rendwick* Preached in Mr. *Powells* parish Church at *Standish* upon the last Fast day being the 27 of *November*, or upon the Sabbath day after, being the first of *December* last as he remembers.

13. *William Turner* being sworne affirms the same.

14. *Michaell Niblet* being sworne, saith, that Mr. *Smith* of *Rendwick* Preached in *Standish* Church the last Fast day, being the 27 of *November* last.

15. To the twelfth Article, *John Niblet* of *Standish* being sworne,

† This *Smith* was proved before the Committee to be a common Swearer, a Drunkard, a Blasphemer, a common Gamester, a whoremonger, and a man ill affected to the Parliament: for which crimes he was Ejected by the Committee, Mr. *Powell* being present.

sworne, saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath divers times presented this deponent in the *Consistory Court* for going to hear Mr. *Capel*; and hath threatned to have him in the *High Commission Court* for so doing: And that Mr. *Powell* presented this deponents wife in the said *Consistory* for staying at home one Sabbath day after noone; And Mr. *Powells* man said, his Master did it because he thought she had been gone to *Eastington* to Church: And he saith, that Mr. *Powell* hath caused this deponent and his wife to be Excommunicate: And saith, that he is a man notoriously knowne to be false in his dealings; and is usually more conversant with Drunkards and Usurers, then with good Christians, and therefore an unworthy man to be a Minister.

John Windom of *Standish* being sworne, saith, that about nine years since, Mr. *Powell* caused this deponent and about 20 persons of *Standish* parish to be presented in the *Consistory* for not comming to his Church, they going to another parish to hear Sermons, when as in their owne parish of *Standish* they were sometimes neglected at least once a Sabbath:

18 Decemb.
1644.

14. To the fourteenth Article, *Thomas Vick* of *Hardwick* being sworne, saith, that a little after *Nathaniel Knight* had been examined before the Committee about Mr. *Powell*, the said *Powell* in the hearing of this deponent, gave out threatning speeches against the said *Nathaniel Knight*, saying, he would have his ears nayled to the Pillory.

Nathaniel Knight being sworne, saith, that he having been formerly summoned by warrant from this Committee, to testifie the truth of his knowledge concerning Mr. *Powell*, and having testified accordingly: About a weeke after Mr. *Powell* meeting this deponent in *Gloucester*, told him he would make him repent his oath taken against him.

15. To the fifteenth Article, *Anne Parre* of *Whetenhurst* aged 11 years, saith, that about three moneths since, Mr. *Powell* came to *Whetenhurst* Inne, and two others with him, and staid there almost two dayes and a whole night, and was there drinking part of the time.

James Perry of *Standish Marton* being sworne, saith, that since *Michaelmas* last he comming to the Inne at *Whetenhurst*; the Inne-keepers wife told him that Mr. *Powell* and an Inne-keeper

of

of *Barkley* and others were there: And the next day after, this deponent coming to the same *Inne*, the said *Inne-keepers* wife told him, that *Mr. Powell* had continued in the said *Inne* from about 10 of the clock the day before, till 2 of the clock that present day; and that the said *Powell* and the rest, had been drinking in the said *Inne*.

Margery the wife of *George Tarbert* of *Whetenhurst* *Innekeeper*, being sworn, saith, that about *Michaelmas* last *Mr. Powell* came into the *Inne* at *Whetenhurst*, and there sate drinking with other company (as this deponent beleeves;) And she saith that he continued there from about 10 or 11 of the Clock, till the next day after about twelve of the clock.

16. To the sixteenth Article, *William Mill* of *Haresfield* being sworn, saith, that about a year and three quarters since, he being a servant in *Mr. Powels* house, did for three Sabbath dayes together with a Waine and 2 Yoake of Oxen, carry certaine Loades of *Mr. Powels* Hay to fodder his Cattle, in a ground of the said *Mr. Powels*: And he saith, that the first of the three Sabbaths *Mr. Powell* knew not of it; but the other two (he beleeves) the said *Mr. Powell* did know of it.

Edward Mill of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that about two years since, he saw *Mr. Powels* Teeme carry Hay upon a Sabbath day, about a quarter of a mile.

2. And he saith, that he hath seene *Mr. Powell* sit drinking in the *Inne* at little *Haresfield*, above forty and twenty times.

Nathaniel Shatford of *Standish* being sworn, saith, that about two years since, he saw Hay carryed upon a Sabbath day morning: And he saith, he knowes not whether it were *Mr. Powels* Teeme that carried it: For he saith, that sometimes it was *Mr. Powels* Teeme, and sometimes *Captaine Bayleys* his son-in-law.

17. To the seventeenth Article, *George Wild*, *William King*, and *Joseph Probert*, three of *Captaine Singletons* Company, informe that about three weekes since, they having distrained *Mr. Powels* Cattle for Contribution money: The said *Powell* fell a railing at the Committee, and said, he would make them ashamed of it when he came to London, and for keeping away his Rent, and that *Mr. Sheppard* was his only enemy, and that the Committee kept away 16. l. of his money from him.

Item, About 3 or 4 dayes after this, the said *Mr. Powell* being before the Committee to have his Cattle againe, which they refusing to grant, till he had paid his Contribution money for which they were distrained: The said *Mr. Powell* said, he never found such dealing from the Cavaliers.

10 Feb. 1644.

Also Mr. Powell said before the Committee, that Mr. Sheppard of the Committee did alwayes speake as an adversary in his business, and not as a Judge.

Also he said, that if there be five Articles exhibited against himselfe, he the said Powell hath ten Articles against Mr. Sheppard.

Daniel Guiliam of Rendwick being sworne, saith, that about foure moneths since, Mr. Smith of Rendwick being questioned before the Committee for a scandalous Minister; and this deponent having before been called before the Committee as a witnesse against Mr. Smith: The said Mr. Powell came to this deponent, and would have him and the rest of the parishioners of Rendwick to Petition the Committee on the behalfe of the said Smith, that he might stay at Rendwick till S. Mary day, to take up a quarters pay, and his Easter booke: which this deponent refused to do: whereupon Mr. Powell spake to this deponent to this effect, *viz.* Suppose the Kings Army should come into this Country againe, as it is like enough it will be so; what will you do if Mr. Smith, or some friend of his, should come on his behalfe?

18. To the eighteenth Article, Edward Mill of Standish being sworne, saith, that on the 26 day of March last, as this deponent was digging in his owne ground; Mr. Powell and three men more came upon him in a violent manner, and Mr. Powell with his owne hands smote this deponent on the face with his fist, and tare his doublet and hose; and told this deponent that he had not cared if he had killed him.

19. To the nineteenth Article, John Rogers of Hardwick being sworne, saith, that about seven years since, he being Overseer of the poor of the parish of Hardwick, and comming to Mr. Powell to demand of him his dues to the poor of the said parish: he the said Powell answered, he had no money: This deponent replying, told him, he must pay according to the Statute, whereupon Mr. Powell said, that if he would have money according to the Statute, then you must have Sermons according to the Statute, that is, once a moneth, or words to the like effect.

Mr. John Lygon of Painswick informeth, and saith upon oath, that about five years since, there was a suit in the High Commission Court, depending between Mr. Wild and Mr. Acsen, sometimes Vicars of Painswick. And they had a Commission to examine witnesses in the Country; Mr. Powell was Mr. Acsens Commissioner, and Mr. Wild had diverse witnesses from Painswick; and when any was examined who was a conscientious man, Mr. Powell with crosse interrogatories did endeavour to disparage his testimony; asking him whether ever he were at any Conventicles? whether he did kneele at the Sacrament? with diverse

diverse other like queries touching Bishops and the Ceremonies.

Testimonies of witnesses on the behalfe of Walter Powell Clerke, 7 Jan.

1644.

Walter Powell the son of *Walter Powell Clerke*, saith upon oath, that at the time of the Siege against *Gloucester*, *Mr. Powell* his father had foure Oxen taken from him by the Kings Army, by warrant from the Lord *Forth*. And this examinant's mother speaking to one of her friends to speake to a Gentleman of the Kings Army, that *Mr. Powell* may have the Oxen againe: the said Gentleman promised he would doe his endeavour therein upon two conditions: First that *Mr. Powell* should enter into Bond to bring his son-in-law Captaine *Baily* (a Captaine of the Parliament Army) into the Kings Army. Secondly, that he should take an Oath never to pray for the Parliament againe. To which the said *Mr. Powell* answered to the said friend: To the first (said he) how shall I enter into Bond to performe impossibilities? To the second he answered: The Sun is the Sun though it be sometimes Eclipsed: The Parliament is the Parliament what ever the successe be: Have I stood for the Parliament this long, and shall I now decline? shall I wrong my conscience or damne my soule to get four Oxen? I will never do it while I live: And so he heard no more of his Oxen.

Francis Teat of the parish of *Haresfield*, saith, that what *Walter Powell* hath deposed touching *Mr. Powell* his fathers answer to the two questions aforesaid, is true in all points.

Robert Bright of *Haresfield*, Clerke, testifieth, that at the time of the Siege against *Gloucester*, the said deponent being at the house of *Walter Powell* Vicar of *Standish*, there was one *William Rogers* Constable or Tythingman of the parish of *Standish*, who by virtue of a Warrant had seized upon foure Oxen and a Waine of the said *Walter Powells*: the Warrant as far as this deponent remembreth, came from the Lord *Forth*, or *Troth*. And this deponent having some Corne ready to carry, borrowed of the said Constable or Tythingman *Rogers*, the said Oxen and Waine for that afternoone, conditionally that both Oxen & Waine should be delivered safely that night at *Standish* Court, which the said deponent did performe: And upon the entreaty of the said *Walter Powells* wife, the said deponent did endeavour the regaining of his said Oxen, and preservation of other Cattle, which he the said *Walter* afterwards lost: But in regard he was absent from his house, he was taxed for a Rebelle; and one Captaine *Hanbury* which quartered at this deponents house, did say he did beleve he would be enjoyed to

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bring

bring his son-in-law *Bailey*, and not to pray for the Parliament, or words to that effect: But this deponent never upon discourse betwixt them, could ever find the said *Powell* halting from the Parliament, but alwayes for it.

8 Februarii, 1644.

A Warrant was sent out to call in *Mr. Powell* to answer to the Articles, and depositions exhibited against him, upon Monday next the 10 of February.

10 Februarii, 1644.

Upon which day *Mr. Powell* in person appearing before the Committee: And being by them required to answer to the Articles exhibited against him; he refused so to doe, and said he had an Order from the Committee, that before he had put in his answer to the said Articles, he should have a Copy of the depositions of the witnesses that had sworn against him; and said, he would not otherwise answer, till he had the Copy of the said depositions.

It was thereupon ordered by the Committee, that *Mr. Powell* shall appear at *Mr. Lanes* house, near the Kings Board in Gloucester, to morrow in the afternoone by two of the clock, to answer to the Articles exhibited against him, else the Committee to proceed against him according to the proofs.

11 Februarii, 1644.

At which day and time *Mr. Powell* appeared not according to the former order, but *Mr. Darney* the Towne-clerke appearing for him, moved the Committee to grant him a longer day to put in his answer, and to have a Copy of the depositions of the witnesses.

It was thereupon ordered by the Committee that *Mr. Powell* shall have a Copy of the Articles exhibited against him if he desire it, and that he have time till Saturday night next to put his answer in writing to the said Articles; else the Committee to proceed against him according to the proofs.

It was then also ordered that Wednesday the 19 of this instant *Febr.* be the peremptory day for the hearing of *Mr. Powells* cause at *Mr. Lanes* house aforesaid, by nine of the clock in the morning: And that the witnesses on both sides do appear *viva voce* at the same time, and a Warrant to issue forth to summon them to appear accordingly.

19 Feb.

19 February, 1644.
This day Mr. *Powells* cause being to be heard, Mr. *Powell* appeared not according to the last Order of the Committee, whereupon the Committee proceeded to the examination of the witnesses: and as the cause and witnesses were in examination before them, *William Powell* the son of Mr. *Walter Powell* aforesaid came in where the Committee sate, and told them his father was gone to London, and had sent an Appeal by him to the Committee; And being asked when he saw his father last, and when his father delivered him the said Appeal? he answered, that he had not seen his father since that day seven night, and that he saw him then at *Leonard Stanley*, where his said father delivered him the said Appeal: A Copy whereof here followeth.

Whereas there are Articles of Scandall preferred against me *Walter Powell* Master of Arts, Vicar of *Standish*, with the Chappels thereunto belonging: And the same Articles are prosecuted by the instigation of Malignants: and the Committee of *Gloucester*, by Warrant under their hands, did promise and conclude, that I should have the Copy of the depositions exhibited against me, reserving the names of the deponents, and now have denied the same unto me: And the High Court of Parliament having promised that such as have been eminent in Action, and Suffering, and so continued constant, should not be slighted, but honoured and rewarded.

I therefore do Appeal from the censure of the Committee at *Gloucester* for many good causes; and do demand, that the publique Notary or Clerke of the said Committee, do enter this my Appeal to the High Court of Parliament. In witness whereof I have put to my hand, this 18 day of Feb., 1644.

Walter Powell.

Ordered the same day by the Committee, that the cause of Mr. *Powell* be put off till Saturday the 22 of this instant Feb. at eight of the clock in the morning, at Mr. *Lanes* house: And that notice be sent to Mr. *Powell* that he be then there; and a Warrant to be sent out, requiring the most materiall witnesses that have not appeared this day, to be then present in person to give their evidence *viva voce*, to the end that a finall sentence may be given in the said cause.

22 February, 1644.

William Watkins of *Standish* informeth upon oath, that upon Thursday morning last, he left at Mr. *Powells* house an order from the Committee, wherein the said *Powell* was required to appear before the Committee this present day, to hear the finall determination of his cause.

At which day diverse witnesses being examined *viva voce*, by the Committee: It was ordered that the censure in Mr. *Powells* cause be respited till Tuesday next, eight of the clock in the morning: Then all the Members of the Committee who have been at the hearing of the cause this day to meet, that so in the interim, a more serious and deliberate consideration may be had thereof, the proofs having been fully heard this day, and before, and Mr. *Powell* summoned to appear before the Committee, to attend the said censure this day but came not.

Present { Mr. Mayor.
Mr. Kyrle.
Mr. Fettiplace.

Mr. Wood.
Mr. Clifford.
Mr. Sheppard.

Mr. Jones.
Mr. Fowler.
Mr. Catchmay.

25 Febr 1644.

To the Honourable Committee by Ordinance of Parliament for
Glocester, Heref &c.

The Humble Petition of diverse of the Inhabitants of Standish, Hard-
wick, Rendwick, and Saul.

Sheweth,

THAT the said severall Parishes, or places, doe consist of many people; and that
M. Walter Powell hath for above 20 yeares past, been Vicar of the said Parishes,
whereby the Cure of the Soules of all the said Parishioners have been under his
Charge: The profits whereof, (as is conceived) have been worth about 200l.
per annum, for the recompence of serving the said Cures. Notwithstanding, the said
M. Powell hath, for a great part of the said time exceedingly neglected the Cure of
the soules of the said people in the discharge of his duty in the said places: And
sometimes the said Churches have been voided, and had no Minister for many Sab-
bath dayes together, not so much as to read Prayers. And when the Inhabitants of
some of the said Parishes have procured an able Minister among them; The said
M. Powell hath refused to allow them a competent maintenance for their support,
whereby they have been forced to leave the said places: And to the knowledge of
most of us, some of the said Parishes have been neglected ten or twelve weekes to-
gether, And have sometimes been served (to many of our knowledges) by ignorant,
scandalous, and wandering persons, such as the said M. Powell could gain best cheap;
And scarce at any time have the said Cures been long served in an orderly way,
whereby many of the said Parishioners have been forced to goe to other Parishes for
performance of their services to the Lord: All which have been an exceeding bur-
then and grievance to the said Parishioners. For redresse whereof, (to some of us
known) a petition hath been exhibited unto the Honourable Parliament, & since to the
Honourable Governour of Glocester, but by reason of the present distractions, your
Petitioners have not (as yet) obtained any relief in this Case.

The premises considered, your Petitioners humbly desire, that you will be pleased
to execute the power which the Honourable Parliament have entrusted you
withall in this Case, for the Soules comfort of your Petitioners,

And they shall ever pray.

Will. Andrews.

Henry Robins.

Richard Tealf.

Joseph Ellis.

John Bainham.

Richard Dowding.

Thomas Breiber.

Jo: Merriman.

James Haines.

Thomas Pride.

John Beard.

Alice Tox.

Elizabeth Jones.

Anne Boban.

Thomas Beard.

John Kylock.

John Nibler.

George Stratford.

William Chew.

John Eliots.

Daniel Gwilliam.

Edmund Allen.

John Spencer.

John Barnard.

Henry Nicholson.

William Balden.

Elizabeth Watkins.

Elizabeth Balden.

Daniel Wats.

Thomas Rells.

Lewis Harris.

Rebecca Kylock.

John Window.

John Barnard.

Thomas Mills.

Anne Packer.

Edith Beard.

Thomas Pride.

Anne Haines.

John Parne.

Samuell Smith.

William Pello.

John Merret.

John Rogers.

William Whichworth.

Giles Wyman.

Elizabeth Beard.

William Trevis.

Richard Harris.

Nauba Greeneing.

Richard Watkins.

Joseph Greeneing.

Richard Parne.

Robert Chamneys.

John Croome.

Dorothy Nicholson.

Thomas Beard.

Thomas Dowding.

John Ellis.

Walter Fryer.

John Beard.

William Beard.

Edmund Beard.

Samuel Beard.

Nich: Prosser.

Alice Chew.

Thomas Allen.

Thomas Wintle.

Mary Beard.

Thomas Robins.

Anthony Russell.

Edith Wintle.

Robert Waire.

Thomas Morweut.

Die

Die Martis, 25. Feb. 1644.

FOrasmuch as upon Complaint made to this Committee against *Walter Powell* Clerk, Vicar of the Parish Church of *Standish*, and the Chappels or Parish Churches of *Hardwick*, *Rendwick*, and *Saul*; for matter of scandall in his life, it did appear to them by the clear and pregnant testimony of many substantiall witnesses, beyond all exception, That the said *Walter Powell* having for diverse years together now last past, had the Charge and Cure of the Soules of the people of the said Parishes which have been many; and taken the Tithes, and other profits, incident and belonging to the said Churches: yet hath been notoriously carelesse thereof, and negligent of his Charge therein, sometimes absenting himself many moneths together, and not leaving any to Officiate for him; so that for diverse Lords dayes together, the people had neither preaching nor prayers: And in one of his Churches they had not the Sacrament in a whole yeare, causing the Bell to ring, and the Congregation to come together many times when there was neither sermon nor prayers, And yet notwithstanding, would not suffer his people that were well-affected, to goe abroad to other Churches, to hear godly and Orthodox Divines, but preached against them; presented and vexed them for it in the Chancellours Court: And substituting, and keeping under him, to officiate in his Cures, base and scandalous Ministers; which, when the people desired to remove, and suppress, he did by all meanes labour to keep in and bear up: And when the people had sometimes, by their owne care, procured honest and able men to supply the Charge, he did either by not paying off, or opposition against them, loone weary them, and make them desert the place. And whereas it did also appeare to the Committee, by a cleare proof, that the said *Walter Powell* hath been drunk diverse times, and that he is a great frequenter of Ale-houses, and doth spend much time therein, and that he is very false, dishonest, and injurious in his dealings, contentious and litigious amongst his neighbours; one that doth exceedingly entangle himself in secular affaires, and is guilty of many other Crimes, and the said *Walter Powell* being required by the Committee, to answer those Crimes charged upon him, he wilfully refused, and behaved himself so before the Committee, as declared in him a manifest neglect and contempt of them. It is therefore this day Ordered, that the said *Walter Powell* shall be, and hereby is ejected and removed from the Vicaridge of *Standish*, and Chappels, or parish Churches of *Hardwick*, *Rendwick*, and *Saul*: and of all the said Churches, and service of the Cures thereof, and from the Tythes, profits, and Revenues thereof: And that in his place, some such godly, able, & learned person shall be placed, and put in possession of the said Churches, and Cures severally, and respectively as his Committee shall nominate and appoint, who shall receive, and have all the profits and revenues thereof, according to the Ordinance of Parliament made in that behalf.

John Nurse Major.

James Kyrle.

John Featherplace.

Sir Wood.

Will: Sheppard.

Henry Jones.

Stephen Fowler.

Christ: Catchmay.

4 Feb.

4 Febr. 1647.

This day the Parishioners of Hardwick exhibited a Petition to the Committee, desiring them to admit of Mr. Henry Walker (a stranger) to be their Minister. Whereupon they made this ensuing Order.

WHereas the Parishioners and Inhabitants of Hardwick have petitioned this Committee for the settling of Mr. Hen. Walker amongst them to be their present Minister there: And the Committee have not as yet received satisfaction concerning his godly life and conversation. It is therefore Ordered, That the said Mr. Walker shall Officiate in the said Parish, and be Preacher to the same Parish for his farther tryall, untill farther order be given by this Committee to the contrary. And that so long as he shall continue to serve that Cure, he shall receive all the profits incident thereunto.

John Madscke Maior.
Will. Sheppard.
Jo. Dorney.

After Master Walker had been there about five months, Information came in to the Committee against him upon Oath, That he had been an Armer against the Parliament. Whereupon they made an Order to expell him. The Copie whereof followeth.

WHereas several Declarations containing matter of Delinquencie and ill affection to the Parliament are exhibited against Master Hen. Walker the present Minister of Hardwick in the County of Glouc. whereby it appears by the oathes of severall witnesses that the said Hen. Walker hath been in actuall Armer against the Parliament, and was taken Prisoner by the Parliament Forces in the Kings Garrison at Hymon about five years since: And the Committee being informed that the said Walker is Ejected by the Committee of Mounmouth-shire for his Delinquencie, and other crimes proved against him: It is thereupon Ordered, That the said Hen. Walker be and is hereby Ejected and removed out of and from the Vicaridge of Hardwick, and from serving the Cure there: And that from henceforth he shall no longer officiate in the Parish Church of Hardwick: And that in his roome some godly, able Minister be placed, such as this Committee shall nominate and appoint, according to the Ordinance of Parl. in that behalfe.

John Madscke Maior.
Will. Sheppard.
Jo. Dorney.